United Nations S/2006/452

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 June 2006

Original: English

Letter dated 21 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement on terrorist bombings in Sri Lanka, issued on 16 June 2006 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gerhard **Pfanzelter**
Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 21 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on terrorist bombing in Sri Lanka, issued on 16 June 2006 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

The European Union (EU) utterly condemns the most recent incidents of violence in Sri Lanka, in particular the bombing of a bus that caused the death of dozens of innocent people and injured many more. This abhorrent act of violence, which marks the bloodiest attack on civilians since the signing of the Ceasefire Agreement in 2002, is another clear violation of that Agreement.

The EU calls upon all parties to put an immediate end to violence and to return to the negotiation table with a view to strengthening the ceasefire and working towards a durable political solution of the conflict, so as to relieve the Sri Lankan people from the ordeal of 20 years of persistent conflict.

The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,* and Turkey, the countries of the stabilization and association process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia, and the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, align themselves with this declaration.

* Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the stabilization and association process.